

contacting said biological sample with a pectinase;
filtering said sample;
washing said filter to remove unbound lectin;
eluting bound lectin with a chitin, a chitin degradation product or a chitin analogue; and
detecting said lectin wherein detection of said lectin indicates the presence of chitin in said biological sample.

A² 16. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said chitin degradation product is N-acetyl D-glucosamine.

A³ 29. (Once Amended) A method of detecting chitinous material in a non-chitinous biological sample, said method comprising
in a solution at a pH ranging from about pH 7 to about pH 9 contacting said biological sample with a fluorescently labeled probe that is a lectin that binds chitin;
filtering said sample;
washing said filter to remove unbound lectin;
eluting bound lectin with a chitin, a chitin degradation product or a chitin analogue; and
detecting said lectin wherein detection of said lectin indicates the presence of chitin in said biological sample.

A⁴ 43. (Once Amended) The method of claim 29, wherein said chitin degradation product is N-acetyl D-glucosamine.

REMARKS

1. Restriction

Applicants hereby elect the claims of Group I (claims 1-54), drawn to methods of detecting chitinous material.